

WORDS OF THE HOLY FATHER

“Christ is risen; he is truly risen!” In this traditional proclamation of the Churches of the East, the word “truly” reminds us that our hope is not an illusion, but the truth! And that, in the wake of Easter, humanity’s journey, now marked by hope, advances all the more readily. The first witnesses of the resurrection show this by their example. The Gospels speak of the haste with which, on the morning of Easter, the women “ran to tell the disciples” (Mt 28:8). Mary Magdalene “ran and went to Simon Peter” (Jn 20:2), while John and Peter himself then “ran together” (cf. v. 4) to the place where Jesus had been buried. (...) At Easter, then, the journey quickens and becomes a race, since humanity now sees the goal of its journey, the meaning of its destiny, Jesus Christ, and is called to make haste to meet him, who is the hope of the world.

May we too make haste to progress on a journey of reciprocal trust: trust among individuals, peoples and nations. May we allow ourselves to experience amazement at the joyful proclamation of Easter, at the light that illumines the darkness and the gloom in which, all too often, our world finds itself enveloped.

Let us make haste to surmount our conflicts and divisions, and to open our hearts to those in greatest need. Let us hasten to pursue paths of peace and fraternity.

Cycle of prayer during Eastertide, we pray for those intentions:





- New Members of the Church
- Human Work
- Vocations
- Survivors of Abuse
- The Right Use of the Media
- The Church

Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish, also let's pray for the deceased people of the parish.

We continue to pray for Ukraine and its people, for the people of Israel and Palestine and for all the war-torn countries in the world.



Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy and no refreshments in the hall TODAY Easter Sunday. Both events will take places as usual next Sunday.

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<p>Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlkeicester.co.uk/ English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/</p>			
<p>Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914</p>			
 <p style="text-align: center;">Easter Sunday 31st March - 7th April 2024</p>			
<p>Sunday 31.03</p>	<p>8.30am 10.30am</p>	<p>Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite English Mass</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Pope's prayer intentions for April 2024.</p> <p>For The Role Of Women Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.</p>
<p>Monday 1.04</p>	<p>No Service</p>		
<p>Tuesday 2.04</p>	<p>No Service</p>		
<p>Wednesday 3.04</p>	<p>5.30pm 6pm</p>	<p>Silent Adoration Holy Mass</p>	
<p>Thursday 4.04</p>	<p>9.30am 10am</p>	<p>Silent Adoration Holy Mass</p>	
<p>Friday 5.04</p>	<p>9.30am 10am</p>	<p>Silent Adoration Holy Mass</p>	
<p>Saturday 6.04</p>	<p>9.30am 10am</p>	<p>Silent Adoration Holy Mass</p>	
<p>Sunday 7.04</p>	<p>8.30am 10.30am 4pm</p>	<p>Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro Malabar rite</p>	

EASTER PRAYER

Gracious God,

We praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.

We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witness of resurrection.

We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, we live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.



Background on the Gospel Reading John 20:1-9

Mary of Magdala finds that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb.

Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen. She does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Latin Masses in Leicester: Blessed Sacrament on Sundays at 8am.

Holy Cross: see their newsletter.

Mass Intentions. One of the great gifts we can give to someone is to have a Mass offered for their intention or for the repose of their soul. To request a Mass please use the envelopes found at the back of the church. Please state if the Mass is for a deceased person, birthday or any special intentions. Thank you. Please note: If intention is for a living person, they must sign the envelope for permission to print their name on newsletter or intention will be listed as Private Intention and initials of intention.

300 Club Draw 24th March 2024: £50 M Nazareth (16). £25 D S (104), LYC H A G (219).

We need to identify a parishioner called M Nazareth, please contact Fr. Hans or John Gray at the back of the church.

NEW ENVELOPES

NEW ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Please collect your new envelope set. Anyone not on the list for envelopes and would like a set, please fill in the form at the back of the church. If any of your details have currently changed, please pass on your new data. If you would like to use a standing order instead of envelopes, please see Hope Eruchie or Fr. Hans. If you are a tax payer, the church can gain an additional 25% of your contributions at no cost to yourself – only your signature is needed!

'Talking Philosophy: A Carmelite Perspective' meets on zoom on first Wednesdays of each month from 7:45pm logging on, for an 8:00pm prompt start (with latecomers logging on when they can) and finishing promptly at 10:00pm. Key contacts Rev Deacon James Hunter CertEd BA MA OCDS james.hunter@dioceseofnottingham.uk. [01507 525274](tel:01507525274).

The Missionary sisters of St. Peter Claver will be here on Sunday 7th April to appeal on behalf of the Sisters Missions Committee of England and Wales. They will tell us about their Missionary Work and will be grateful for your support.

PILGRIMAGES

Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 15 June. 11am - 4.30pm. Join with Bishop Patrick as we seek Our Lady of Walsingham's intercession for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Religious Life in our Diocese. For more information contact Father Neil Peoples 01283 564814 or vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk or Deacon Seamus O'Looskan 0116 251 1437 or seamus.olooskan@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

The Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Patrick between Monday 15th and Friday 19th July. By air from East Midlands Airport directly to Lourdes, prices for the full-board five-day pilgrimage start at £819, including a full liturgical programme, and medical care and assistance for those who need it. For more details visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/lourdes or email the Pilgrimage Deputy Director at simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

FOODBANKS. We are extremely grateful to all the parishioners who donate food for the FOODBANKS. It is very much needed. Please continue to donate, if you can.

A huge thank you to all of you!



Please bring your red MISSIO box to church to be emptied and collect your free magazine. If you would like a Red Box, please speak to Maila Taylor. Thank you.